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**MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO MIDDAY SHOOTING OUTSIDE MANHATTAN
RADIO STATION; RAPPER 'LIL' KIM' AWAITS TRIAL FOR
ALLEGEDLY LYING ABOUT THE SHOOTING**

DAVID N. KELLEY, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced today that DAMION BUTLER, also known as "Roc" and "D-Roc," pled guilty in Manhattan federal court today to charges that he possessed and fired a gun during a shootout in front of the offices of New York radio station Hot 97, on February 25, 2001, after KIMBERLY JONES, also known as "Lil' Kim," appeared on Hot 97. One person was shot during the incident.

At today's plea hearing, BUTLER pled guilty to a charge that he possessed the firearm and transported it from New Jersey to New York, after having been previously convicted of a felony. BUTLER, who has three other weapons convictions, stated that he brought the firearm and ammunition from New Jersey to New York and fired the gun in front of 395 Hudson Street, where the radio station offices are located. He admitted that he did so with intent to injure another person, and acknowledged that a victim

sustained serious bodily injury during the shootout.

SUIF JACKSON, also known as "Gutter," earlier pled guilty to firing a fully automatic machine gun during the same shootout, and was sentenced principally to 144 months' imprisonment.

The Indictment charging BUTLER also names three other individuals - KIMBERLY JONES, a/k/a "Lil' Kim," MONIQUE DOPWELL, and HILLARY WESTON - who are scheduled for trial on February 28, 2005 before United States District Judge GERARD E. LYNCH. JONES and DOPWELL are charged with conspiracy to commit perjury and obstruct justice, and related offenses, because they lied to the grand jury about JACKSON and BUTLER. According to the Indictment, JONES and DOPWELL both testified before a federal grand jury in connection with the investigation of the 2001 shooting in front of the Hot 97 radio station offices. While under oath, each made a series of false and perjurious statements regarding facts material to the grand jury's investigation of the shooting. Specifically, among other things, both JONES and DOPWELL repeatedly denied under oath that BUTLER was present at the shootout at Hot 97, and JONES denied knowing JACKSON. WESTON is charged with obstructing the same grand jury investigation by concealing and failing to produce documents and photographs pursuant to subpoena.

BUTLER also pled guilty to conspiracy to misuse a passport, based on his possession and use of a false passport

bearing his photograph but the name of another person. He admitted that he agreed with others to, and did, apply for the false passport, and thereafter used it to travel outside the United States.

BUTLER, 34, faces a maximum sentence of 10 years' imprisonment on the firearms charge and 5 years on the passport charge to which he pled guilty. BUTLER is currently incarcerated on other charges.

Mr. KELLEY praised the investigative efforts of the NYPD, the FBI and the Department of State, Bureau of Diplomatic Security.

Assistant United States Attorneys DANIEL M. GITNER, HELEN V. CANTWELL and CATHY SEIBEL are in charge of the prosecution.

The charges contained in the Indictment are merely accusations, and the defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

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